

**From:** Gates, Nina  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 17, 2015 4:48 PM  
**To:** Duke, Daphne  
**Subject:** Fwd: A voice for Uber

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Timothy West <[tbw1981@gmail.com](mailto:tbw1981@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** January 17, 2015 at 4:19:50 PM EST  
**To:** <[commissioner.howard@psc.sc.gov](mailto:commissioner.howard@psc.sc.gov)>  
**Subject:** A voice for Uber

Dear Commissioner,

I would like to share a post that I wrote and posted on Facebook for all to see. I truly do hope you will stop hindering progress and growth for those of us who need these jobs in order to make ends meet. I will be fighting for Uber as much as possible and plan on continuing to voice my concerns over such decisions that the PSC makes.

"As an Uber driver, I gave many rides to intoxicated people last night, up until 330am. The recent decision by the PSC will create more of a chance that tonight, people won't be taking the responsible choice, due to the lack of enough services in the market. Having to wait for hours in order to get a taxi cab is not always a desired option. Carrying cash to pay taxis is not always a desired option. Paying upwards of 30% or more for a cab ride is not always desired. Thus leading to people possibly making bad decisions. My last ride of the night, last night, was for two young ladies who could barely stay coherent and had trouble walking to their front doors. Yesterday afternoon I gave a ride (second time I have assisted this lady) to an older woman on a fixed income who has to meet with a group every two weeks. The higher cost of a cab may mean less food on her table due to her fixed income. The PSC does NOT have the safety of the public in its best interests. They site paperwork not being filed as their reason to destroy the livelihood of people who need these jobs in order to make ends meet. The PSC has friends on their side as well....taxi cab companies..... whom have acted like spoiled children during this whole mess of fighting Uber. Even though they say it is in the interest of the safety of the citizens, these cab companies are not telling the truth, and using lies to justify their childishness. Instead of fighting to deregulate the cab industry, they beg for the Government to come in and regulate even more. There are no freedom loving persons amongst these cab company owners. We all know that it is about the money and the competition. It is about "life not being fair" for these cab companies. They wish to punish Uber because Uber figured out a way to streamline a system. Their failure to bring about real reform in their own systems is a fault of their own, and their ability to monopolize a market for years while pillaging the wallets of passengers has seen its time come and go. How many cab companies donate MILLIONS to charities? How many of them can provide you, as a passenger, with a pick-up service of less than 5 minutes in almost all cases? As an Uber driver, I can say that cab companies have outright attacked the workers of Uber and

worked hard to damage the reputation of those of us who wish to provide a proper service to those who request it. I am obviously not pleased with the decision of the PSC or the childishness displayed by the cab companies of Charleston. Rant over.....for now."

Best Regards,

Timothy Blake West  
Charleston, SC